1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Surat	512	54.75	465	41.14
22.	Surendranagar	4	0.18	4	0.18
23.	Vadodara	2332	392.63	2297	203.64
24.	Valsad	11	0.21	11	0.21
25.	Dang	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL:	21505	4371.88	20200	1857.34

Search for gold granules

2281. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of people are involved in search of gold granules with the help of local police from the sewer lines in Gali No. 11, Reghar Pura, Karol Bagh, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the sewer lines are chocked by the activities of these persons and the residents have to suffer; and

(c) the action Government propose to take against the persons and the Police officials involved in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) No, Sir. No such incident has come to the notice of Delhi Police.

(b) No, Sir. The sewer lines in the area are running satisfactorily.

(c) Does not arise.

Custodial deaths in Maharashtra

2282. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of highest number of custodial deaths in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has enquired into the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have given any instructions to the State Government in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government/NHRC in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The highest number of custodial deaths occurred in the State of Bihar in the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 while Uttar Pradesh reported the highest number of custodial deaths in 2001-2002.

(c) and (d) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has registered the following number of such cases during the last three years relating to the state of Maharashtra:—

Year	No. of cases
1999-2000	156
2000-2001	123
2001-2002	152

NHRC to whom all cases of custodial deaths in the States are reported has enquired into these deaths and recommended suitable compensation to those affected. The Commission has recommended compensation in 10 cases during the year 1999-2000 and in one case during the year 2000-2001. The Commission has also recommended disciplinary proceedings against guilty officials in two cases for the year 1999-2000.

(e) and (f) NHRC has on various occasions, directed the concerned authorities, in appropriate cases, to take necessary steps to curb the occurrence of custodial deaths and also for improving the conditions in jails.

(g) NHRC has issued instructions for streamlining the procedure for

reporting custodial deaths to avoid any delay in sending the post-mortem and Magisterial Inquairy Reports along with their videography to the Commission within the prescribed time limit. Further the Commission has also emphasized the need to curb the occurrence of custodial deaths to all State Governments.

Village electrification projects

2283. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to electrify 18,000 remote villages through Village Electrification Projects by year 2012;

(b) if so, number of villages to be electrified in Orissa under the Scheme; and

(c) by when, the work under the scheme is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a programme for the electrification of the estimated 18,000 villages in remote and difficult areas in the country through locally available renewable energy resources like solar, biomass and small hydro power by the year 2012. During the Tenth Plan period, 5,000 such villages are proposed to be electrified.

(b) and (c) The nodal agency for the renewable energy programmes in the state of Orissa i.e. the Orisssa Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA) submitted, during 2001-2002, lists of 600 remote and inaccessible census villages in the state for electrification through solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems with 90% central grant. As funding on such a pattern was not available during 2001-2002, the projects could not be sanctioned and the agency was informed accordingly.

High focus area in sundarban

2284. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minsiter of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sundarban area of West Bengal has been declared by MNES as High Focus area with 90 per cent Central financial assistance;